

**House of Representatives  
Health Care  
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003**

| <b>DATE</b>     | <b>TIME</b> | <b>LOCATION</b> | <b>COMMITTEE</b> | <b>SUBJECT</b>   | <b>TYPE</b>  |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|--|--------------|
| September 18-19 |             | Olympia         | Full Committee   | HIPAA Update   | Work Session |
| December 4-5    |             | Olympia         | Full Committee   | 1. Hepatitis C Plan<br>2. Workforce Shortages Report<br>3. Private Health Insurance Reform | Work Session |

**Project Title: AIDS Omnibus Bill Rule Revision**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor the Department of Health's rule-making process that revises the AIDS Omnibus bill's rules.

**Project Title: Dental Hygienists**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 1253 and HB 1856

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will examine the practice of dental hygienists with regard to the expansion of independent practice for dental hygienists, impact of dentist shortages, access to dental care, and self-regulation options. The committee will also monitor the Department of Health's sunrise review activities pertaining to oral health practitioners.

**Project Title: Developmental Disabilities**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference: HB 2261

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor agency compliance with the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committees recommendations related to improving management accountability within the Division of Developmental Disabilities. The activity will include oversight of agency activities to implement the provisions of HB 2261, if it is enacted by the Legislature, and agency efforts to develop four new Medicaid waivers to serve people with developmental disabilities in the community.

**Project Title: Effects of the 2003-05 Biennial Budget on the Health Care Delivery System**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson (jt. with Appropriations Committee)

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor the effects of the 2003-05 biennial operating budget on the health care delivery system including providers, facilities, and citizens needing health care services. The study will be conducted jointly with the Appropriations Committee.

**Project Title: Hepatitis C**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 1638/SB 5039

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor the Department of Health's efforts to develop a statewide plan to prevent and manage hepatitis C in Washington.

**Project Title: HIPAA Implementation**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor issues facing state agencies, insurers, and health care providers as they implement HIPAA privacy and transaction standards, including current DSHS rulemaking activities to become HIPAA-compliant.

**Project Title: Liability Insurance**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson, Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will coordinate with the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee to explore options to address the availability and affordability of liability insurance for health and human services providers.

**Project Title: Patient Safety**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 1865

Other Resources:

Project Description: The Committee will explore protection strategies for health care consumers including burden of proof requirements in disciplinary actions against health care providers and methods to reduce medical errors.

**Project Title: Prescription Drug Assistance Program**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference: HB 1214 and SB 5904

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor agency development and implementation of a preferred drug list for state purchased health care programs and related citizen assistance programs.

**Project Title: Private Health Insurance Reform**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference: HB 2261

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor activities of the Insurance Commissioner's Office and the Washington Health Foundation related to improving health insurance coverage in Washington.

**Project Title: Public Retiree Health Insurance**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference: SB 5777 (Laws of 2002)

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will review the implementation of chapter 319, laws of 2002, and identify barriers to its effective implementation. Committee staff will meet with carriers, political subdivisions, retirees, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and the Health Care Authority to identify problems and propose solutions for consideration in the 2004 legislative session.

**Project Title: Regulation of Boarding Homes and Adult Family Homes**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference: SB 5733 and HB 1779

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will monitor the implementation of proposed boarding home rules and review ways to protect residents of boarding homes and adult family homes. The activity will include a review of current issues related to the inspection and complaint investigation process.

**Project Title: Residential Habilitation Center Consolidation**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson (jt w/Approps, CB, and C &amp; FS)

Reference: SB 5971

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will coordinate with the Appropriations, Capital Budget, and Children and Family Services Committees to monitor agency consolidation of Residential Habilitation Centers as provided in SB 5971 and the 2003-05 biennial operating budget.

**Project Title: Rural Health Topics**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Dave Knutson

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will examine the challenges faced by health care systems and providers in rural parts of north central Washington. The review will include the effects of public and private reimbursement policies, the availability of health care providers, rural economic conditions, the challenges involved in maintaining a safety net of rural hospitals, and transportation issues facing rural communities in north-central Washington.

**Project Title: School Health Topics**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will examine the current status of school health services and resources with a focus on options for improving school nurse to student ratios.

**Project Title: School Nutrition**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 1866

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will coordinate with the Education Committee to examine different options for improving the nutritional content of meals and competitive foods available in public schools. The project will examine the link between school nutrition and obesity and the onset of childhood diseases.

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**Project Title: Specialty Hospitals**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 2083/SB5949

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will review the impact of specialty hospitals on the delivery of health care and their effect on the certificate of need process and develop policy options for their use in Washington.

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**Project Title: Workforce Shortages**

Priority:

Completion Date:

Committee / Staff: Chris Blake

Reference: HB 1852

Other Resources:

Project Description: The committee will coordinate with the Higher Education Committee and Commerce and Labor Committee to monitor the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board's work to develop a strategic plan to address health care personnel shortages.